In the Claims

The following is an amendment to and a complete listing of the claims which replaces all prior listings of claims in this application.

1.   (currently amended)   ~~Process~~ A process for controlling an electronic power component comprising a <u>piloting</u> process for piloting [[the]] <u>an</u> opening ~~and/or closure~~ <u>and a closing</u> of the electronic power component, [[the]] <u>said</u> piloting process ~~comprising~~ <u>having</u> a plurality of steps for controlling [[the]] <u>an</u> application of a succession of different commutation voltages on a control electrode of [[said]] <u>the electronic power</u> component between [[the]] <u>an</u> instant when [[the]] <u>said</u> piloting process begins and [[the]] <u>an</u> instant when <u>either</u> the opening ~~and/or closure~~ <u>and the closing</u> of the electronic power component ~~must stop~~ <u>should be completed</u>, [[the]] <u>wherein</u> passage from one [[step]] <u>commutation voltage</u> to [[the]] <u>a</u> ~~following step~~ <u>successive commutation voltage</u> in [[this]] <u>said</u> piloting process [[being]] <u>is</u> effected automatically as soon as a corresponding condition of passage is satisfied, <u>said piloting process including the steps of</u> ~~wherein it comprises the steps consisting in~~:

[[-]] reading [[the]] <u>a</u> value of at least one operational parameter characteristic of [[the]] <u>a</u> reaction of the electronic power component in response to ~~the successive application of said~~ <u>a</u> commutation ~~voltages~~ <u>voltage</u>,

[[-]] verifying, ~~thanks to~~ <u>based on</u> the values read, whether [[this]] <u>the</u> reaction of the electronic power component <u>to the commutation voltage</u> is produced [[in]] <u>within</u> a predetermined ~~imparted~~ time <u>for the commutation voltage</u>,

[[-]] if [[so]] <u>the reaction of the electronic power component is produced within the predetermined time for the commutation voltage</u>, allowing said piloting process to continue <u>to a successive commutation voltage</u> ~~normally~~, and

[[-]] if [[not]] <u>the reaction of the electronic power component is not produced within the predetermined time for the commutation voltage</u>, interrupting said piloting process and ~~immediately~~ triggering off a process for safeguarding the integrity of the electronic power component.

2.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein at least one condition of passage from ~~one step~~ <u>the commutation voltage</u> to the <u>successive commutation voltage</u> ~~following~~ in said piloting process is a function of the ~~values~~ <u>value</u> read for said at least one operational parameter<u>,</u> and~~, in order to verify~~

verifying whether the reaction of the electronic power component to the commutation voltage is produced [[in]] within the predetermined imparted time for the commutation voltage, the process includes comprises the step consisting in verifying that said at least [[this]] one condition of passage is satisfied before [[the]] said predetermined imparted time for the commutation voltage has elapsed.

3.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 2, wherein [[the]] said piloting process comprises the step consisting in further includes the step of verifying that all the conditions every condition of passage between each commutation voltage of said succession of different commutation voltages said plurality of steps of said piloting process [[are]] is satisfied before a predetermined imparted time common to all these conditions every condition of passage has elapsed.

4.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 3, wherein the common said predetermined time common to every condition of passage is counted from the instant when the execution of said piloting process begins[[,]] and this common time is representative of a maximum time to effect commutation of the electronic power component.

5.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein said at least one ~~of the~~ operational ~~parameters read~~ parameter is [[the]] a voltage between [[the]] a collector electrode and an emitter ~~electrodes~~ electrode of the electronic power component.

6.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein said at least one ~~of the~~ operational ~~parameters read~~ parameter is [[the]] a voltage on the control electrode of the electronic power component.

7.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein ~~one of the steps of~~ said piloting process ~~consists in~~ further includes the step of controlling an [[the]] application on [[said]] the control electrode of a braking voltage adapted to brake commutation of the electronic power component.

8.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 7, wherein ~~the value of the~~ said braking voltage has a value that is strictly included between [[the]] values of [[the]] voltages for maintaining the electronic power component ~~respectively~~ in [[the]] a closed state and in [[the]] an open state.

9.   (currently amended) The process of Claim 7, wherein said

piloting process is a process for piloting the closure of the electronic power component, and wherein [[the]] a condition of passage between the step of controlling the application of [[a]] said braking voltage and [[the]] a following step is satisfied if [[the]] a voltage between [[the]] a collector electrode and an emitter ~~electrodes~~ electrode of the electronic power component is less than a first predetermined threshold.

10. (currently amended) The process of Claim 9, wherein said piloting [[the]] process ~~for piloting the closure of the electronic power component~~ begins [[by]] with the step of controlling the application of [[the]] said braking voltage.

11. (currently amended) The process of Claim 7, wherein said piloting process is a process for piloting the opening of the electronic power component, and wherein a [[the]] condition of passage between a preceding step and the step of controlling the application of [[the]] said braking voltage is satisfied if [[the]] a voltage between [[the]] a collector electrode and an emitter ~~electrodes~~ electrode of the electronic power component is higher than a second predetermined threshold.

12. (currently amended) The process of Claim 11, wherein ~~the~~

~~value of the~~ <u>said</u> second <u>predetermined</u> threshold <u>has a value that</u> corresponds to half <u>of a</u> [[the]] voltage to be commuted.

13.   (currently amended)   The process of Claim 11, wherein [[said]] <u>the</u> preceding step <u>before the step of controlling the application of said braking voltage</u> is a step for controlling [[the]] <u>an</u> application of a voltage [[of]] <u>having a</u> value ~~strictly~~ lower than [[that]] <u>a value</u> of [[the]] <u>said</u> braking voltage.

14.   (currently amended)   The process of Claim 11, wherein~~, in the process for piloting the opening of the electronic power component, the~~ <u>a</u> condition of passage between the step <u>of</u> controlling the application of [[the]] <u>said</u> braking voltage and a following step is satisfied if the voltage between the collector <u>electrode</u> and <u>the</u> emitter ~~electrodes~~ <u>electrode of the electronic power component</u> attains a maximum.

15.   (currently amended)   ~~System~~ <u>A system</u> for controlling an electronic power component<u>, said system is</u> adapted to execute a <u>piloting</u> process for piloting [[the]] <u>an</u> opening ~~and/or closure~~ <u>and a closing</u> of [[this]] <u>the electronic power</u> component, said piloting process ~~containing~~ <u>having</u> a plurality of steps for

controlling [[the]] an application of a succession of different

commutation voltages on a control electrode of the electronic

power component between [[the]] an instant when said piloting

process starts begins and [[the]] an instant when either the

opening and/or closure and the closing of the electronic power

component should be completed must finish, wherein [[the]]

passage from one [[step]] commutation voltage to a successive

commutation voltage the following step in [[this]] said piloting

process [[being]] is automatically effected as soon as a

corresponding condition of passage is satisfied, said wherein the

system comprises comprising:

a computer connecting to a piloting unit for supplying the

succession of different commutation voltages to the electronic

power component, adapted to:

[[-]] means for reading a read the value of at least one

operational parameter characteristic of [[the]] a reaction of the

electronic power component in response to the successive

application of said a commutation voltages voltage and for

inputting the value to said computer,

[[-]] wherein said computer includes means for

verifying verify, thanks to based on the input of the value to

the computer values read, whether [[this]] the reaction of the

electronic power component to the commutation voltage is produced

[[in]] within a predetermined imparted time for the commutation voltage,

[[-]] and if [[so]] the reaction of the electronic power component is produced within the predetermined time for the commutation voltage, then permitting [[allow]] said piloting process to continue to a successive commutation voltage normally, and

[[-]] if the reaction of the electronic power component is not produced within the predetermined time for the commutation voltage, then interrupting interrupt said piloting unit to process and immediately trigger off a process for safeguarding [[the]] an integrity of the electronic power component.

16.   (currently amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein at least one condition of passage from one [[step]] commutation voltage of said piloting process to a successive commutation voltage the following is a function of the values read for said at least one operational parameter, and wherein said computer further includes means for verifying, in order to verify whether the reaction of the electronic power component is produced in the predetermined imparted time, the computer is adapted to verify that said at least one condition of passage is satisfied before [[a]] the predetermined time for the commutation voltage imparted

~~for this condition of passage~~ has elapsed <u>to verify whether the reaction of the electronic power component to the commutation voltage is produced within the predetermined time for the commutation voltage</u>.

17. (currently amended) The system of Claim 16, wherein [[the]] <u>said</u> computer <u>further includes means for verifying</u> ~~is adapted to verify~~ that ~~all the conditions~~ <u>every condition</u> of passage between <u>each commutation voltage of</u> said <u>succession of different commutation voltages</u> ~~plurality of steps~~ of said piloting process [[are]] <u>is</u> satisfied before a predetermined ~~imparted~~ time common to ~~all these conditions~~ <u>every condition</u> of passage has elapsed.

18. (currently amended) [[Data]] <u>The system of Claim 15, further comprising a data</u> recording support ~~comprising~~ <u>having</u> instructions <u>adapted to be executed by the computer</u> ~~for the execution of~~ ~~the steps of the~~ <u>to execute said piloting</u> process ~~for controlling an electronic power component of Claim 1, when said instructions are executed by a computer~~.